

United States Congress believes in one Jerusalem never again divided. It is the united capital of Israel.

While remaining unified with our democratic partner, we need to hold Yasser Arafat to his promises. The United States must force Arafat to choose. He must choose honest involvement in the peace process or clear hostility with the United States of America. The United States House will do its part. Congressman Jon Fox has informed me that he is drafting a resolution calling upon Arafat to keep his commitments now with no more excuses.

Finally, I urge every one of you, and all of your friends, to become a watchdog in the information warfare that is undermining Israel. Every time you see an article that refers to "settlements," write a letter to the editor. If you know the publisher, call them. If you know the editor, call them. If you don't know the reporter, get to know them by calling them. Every time you hear—you look at "Arab East Jerusalem," pick up the phone and call. We must become militant in defeating the effort by media to defeat that which cannot be defeated militarily, and that is precisely what the Palestinians are trying to do today, is to use the military to gain—the media to gain what they could never gain on the battlefield. And it takes the vigilance of individual Americans to stand up to that kind of pressure. And I believe it would take six months or a year and you would never again see those phrases, you would never again see that kind of bias, and we would have reeducated the American news media.

You know, this is a challenging period, but it's not a hopeless period. I had the opportunity about 10 days ago to be with the young men and women of the 2nd Infantry Division of the border with North Korea. My dad served in the Korean War. He was a career infantryman; spent 27 years in the Army. It was a marvelous thing at 6:30 in the morning to be with young men and women willing to risk their lives for freedom. It was an amazing thing to realize that 20 miles away, the 13 million people of Seoul, Korea were getting up in the morning, creating wealth, living prosperous lives, with a free press, chaotic, wide-open political system and all the values that, frankly, are what we're really about.

Similarly, all of you who have ever visited Israel, who have ever seen units of the Israeli defense forces, who have ever talked to the young men and women, or as you get as old as I am, you talk to the older men and women who tell you about when they were younger men and women. We can win the information struggle just as decisively as we have in the past won military struggles, if we will engage as civilian warriors, if you will, as information warriors. If we will be prepared to be militant and direct and clear, I believe in a year we will be in a different environment. The burden will clearly be on those it should be on: on Egypt to provide a positive, legitimate leadership role in favor of peace, instead of, frankly, the current terribly unsatisfactory role Egypt has chosen; on Arafat to have kept his word to lock up the terrorists, to police the area; on all of us who believe in decency to bring pressure to bear on Syria to get to a peaceful Lebanon and to get to a reasonable relationship. We don't have to fear. The coalition that defeated the Soviet empire, ended the Cold War and liberated a third of the planet is more than capable of sustaining democracy and freedom and achieving security. But we have to be prepared and we have to be willing to tell the truth, to insist on the truth, and to go nose-to-nose with any who by their propaganda and their disinformation would threaten the survival of our closest ally in

the region and would threaten the survival of millions of decent people who ask only that they be allowed to pursue happiness, live in freedom, and have their children grow up in security.

Thank you. Good luck, and God bless you.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICIA A. MEAD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Patricia A. Mead, whose lifetime of entrepreneurialism, fine business sense, volunteer service, civic action, and nonprofit leadership has earned her the respect and admiration of her peers.

Pat started Metro Relocation Services in 1971, the first independent relocation company in the world. She eventually merged this company into Realty One, where she served as president of Corporate Relocation Services, a division with a staff of 30 that produced revenues of \$275,000,000 per year.

Pat has been generous with her time and expertise, and over the years involved herself with many organizations including: Recovery Resources, American Lung Association; Cleveland Opera; Cleveland Branch of the English-Speaking Union where she chaired the Shakespeare Recitation Competition; Cleveland Rotary Club; YWCA where she was named Woman of Achievement, Federation for Community Planning; Cleveland Ad Club; Junior Achievement; Friends of the Cleveland Library; Better Business Bureau, and Cleveland Ballet. Pat also served on the board of COSE and the board of trustees and executive committee of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, chairing their first executive network committee.

Pat is also a longtime member of the Women's City Club. She served on the board of trustees as vice president of membership and operations as well as numerous committees. She created the Executive Women's Network. Pat served as president of Cleveland Women's City Club Foundation for 2 years.

On May 23, 1997, Pat will receive the Margaret A. Ireland Award from the Cleveland Women's City Club. The award has been given each year since 1963 to local women who have achieved special stature because of their contributions in civic, social, and community service. They exemplify the leadership, commitment, and personal achievements of the award namesake.

Let us join the Cleveland Women's City Club in recognizing the talent, versatility, dedication, breadth of interest, and leadership exercised by Patricia A. Mead. Cleveland is better for her efforts.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 9, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

There is surprisingly little pressure from constituents on Members of Congress to act on campaign finance reform, even though we have daily revelations of egregious excesses. The growing sense in American politics today is that dollars speak louder than ideas, access is bought and sold, challengers and third parties are often drowned out, and many of the best people are discouraged from running because of the fundraising burden.

PROBLEMS WITH SYSTEM

Campaign finance reform is a constant game of catch-up, with excesses followed by reforms followed by new ways to get around the reforms. The present campaign finance laws passed two decades ago have been simply overwhelmed by a flood of money—more than \$2 billion in the last election—and with every election the problem gets worse. The laws are more loophole than law, and politicians defend their practices by resorting to legal mumbo-jumbo.

Political campaigning has become distorted. Members spend large amounts of time making phone calls to raise money and attending fundraisers, which means a lot of time with people who already support them and too little time with ordinary voters who have not decided how to vote. So the system drives a wedge between the elected representatives and those they represent. When politicians become preoccupied with raising campaign money, that also crowds out other activities like writing laws and thinking about public policy.

Those who contribute money are very concerned about a "shakedown" atmosphere. They often feel they cannot get their view across unless they contribute generously to politicians they may dislike. The common feature of the great debates in Congress over the last few years—including health care reform, clean water, telecommunications, and regulatory changes—is that they were all awash with money. Members used these debates skillfully to get money from people who were interested in certain legislative outcomes.

The rising flood of money that flows into campaigns undermines public trust. Nothing is more important in our democracy today than the restoration of public confidence in the integrity of the political system. To many Americans it is money, not ideas and not principles, that reigns supreme in our political system. Many people tell me the political process is run by special interest groups, powerful organizations, and foreign donors, so they see little reason to vote. Cynicism is always the worst enemy of democracy and it has certainly been strengthened by the campaign finance system.

Getting campaign reform is terribly difficult. The blunt fact is that most Members of Congress and both political parties prefer the system under which they were elected over some untested scheme that might replace it. Moreover, it is very difficult to devise a system that will reduce the role of special interest money in politics and still not trample on constitutional rights to express political views. It is easy to be cynical and assume that nothing will happen on reform, but we really do have a chance to break the cycle of fundraising that demeans our politicians and our political system.

CURRENT SYSTEM

Some progress in campaign finance reform has been made in recent years. After the Watergate scandals, Congress instituted public financing of presidential campaigns, limits on contributions, and more disclosure of where money comes from. These were major and important changes. But it is clear the reforms did not go far enough, and means were devised to get around existing law.